WHEREAS; each year, our nation's underground utility infrastructure is jeopardized by those who fail to notify the appropriate utilities prior to digging; and

WHEREAS; the Diggers Hotline is Wisconsin's free one-call service that should be used to notify utilities of an intent to dig, and can be reached by dialing 8-1-1; and

WHEREAS; upon receiving an excavation notice, utility facility owners are required to dispatch locators to mark the approximate location of underground lines; and

WHEREAS; anyone who engages in excavation—from a homeowner installing a mailbox to a professional excavator completing a major project—is required by law in Wisconsin to call 8-1-1 at least three days before digging; and

WHEREAS; consequences of failing to call 8-1-1 to have underground utility lines located can include disruption of vital utility services, dangerous or costly leaks, environmental damage, fires, explosions, injury, or even death; and

WHEREAS; by making a simple call to 8-1-1, waiting the required amount of time, respecting the marked lines by maintaining visual definition throughout the course of an excavation, and digging with care around the marks, excavators and homeowners can save time and money, and help keep our state safe and connected; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Public Service Commission in reminding all Wisconsinites that safe digging is a shared responsibility and to call 8-1-1 in advance of any digging project;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as

## SAFE DIGGING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State

of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 10 <sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.	
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State	